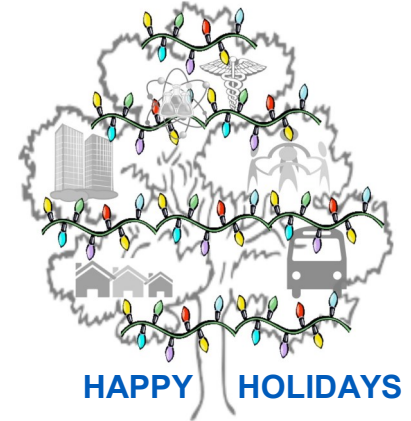


December 2016

WOSG NEWS

White Oak Science Gateway

SEE PAGE 3 FOR
IMPORTANT
PUBLIC HEARING
DATE OF
JANUARY 17TH.



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2nd Edition

The White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan seeks to leverage the many assets located in the White Oak area and establish the foundation upon which the area may evolve into a community that offers more opportunities to live, learn, work and play. The Plan also envisions that the commercial centers will evolve from conventional, auto-dependent suburban shopping retail centers, business parks and light industrial areas into vibrant, mixed-use, transit-served nodes.



Government and local business leaders
at BRT press Conference

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)—Naming Contest

A naming contest was launched last month to brand the County's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system, which will debut along White Oak's Route 29 as a transportation alternative in the East County.

County Executive Leggett said, "I am committed to putting practical, cost-effective transit options on the ground in the near term. One of my highest priorities is to provide world-class transportation options for all our residents who live and work throughout the County that will provide congestion relief and also unlock Montgomery County's economic potential."

BRT will be a network of train-like buses that will take as many as 90 cars off the road, get travelers out of traffic and help residents reach their destinations in a more timely manner. BRT along Route 29 will be a mix of dedicated and shared lanes based on allowable space for the new transit vehicles. It makes fewer stops than a traditional bus and is an environmentally-friendly choice that reduces greenhouse gases. The County also intends to place BRT on Routes 355 (Rockville Pike) and 586 (Viers Mill Road).

The naming contest will be held from Nov. 17 to Jan. 20 to help brand the BRT system. The public may select one of three possible names – Flash, Rapid or Swift – and will automatically be entered to win prizes through random drawings. Voting will occur online on MCDOT's newly released BRT website: GetOnBoardBRT.com or by texting MOCOBRT to 77453.

The tentative next meetings of the Corridor Advisory Committees:

Route 29S—Tuesday, January 31st; 6:30pm at the Silver Spring Civic Center

Route 29N—Thursday, February 2nd; 6:30pm at the East County Regional Services Center

For information, please go to www.montgomerycountymd.gov/BRT/cac.html.

Development Updates— What's New in the Gateway?

Six significant projects underway in the Gateway
(conceptual statistics):

- FDA Campus expansion
- Viva White Oak
- Washington Adventist Hospital
 - ◇ Foundation construction to begin this month; preparing for core and shell construction; architect has advanced the hospital design to construction documents which will be complete early 2017. Planning is underway for the associated parking garage and construction in 2017.
- Hillandale Gateway
 - ◇ Continue working with Planning Staff on design details.
- Town Center
 - ◇ Continue working with Planning Staff on design details; submission expected Winter 2017.
- Hilton Home 2 Suites Hotel
 - ◇ Continue working on permitting process



Adventist's new hospital broke ground in March 2016



WOSG Corner by Peter Fosselman

Montgomery County's Crimes Against Seniors and Vulnerable Adults Unit

The State's Attorney's Office held an informational session on crimes against seniors and vulnerable adults last month in White Oak. These offenses are defined as any criminal act involving a victim who is 65 years of age or older. Crimes against seniors and vulnerable adults may be physical, sexual or financial. For more information on crimes against seniors and vulnerable adults, please call 240-777-7300 or go to montgomerycountymd.gov/SAO/units/family/crimesagainstseniorsandvulnerableadults.html.



First of Five FY18 Operating Budget Forums Begin in January 2017

County Executive Leggett is holding the first of five budget forums starting the second week in January to seek input from residents about Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) Operating Budget priorities. All of the forums will begin at 7:00pm and are scheduled as follows:

- Mon, Jan 9 at the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda;
- Wed, Jan 11, Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring;
- Wed, Jan 18, Mid-County Community Recreation Center, 2004 Queensguard Road, Silver Spring;
- Wed, Jan 25, Silver Spring Civic Building, One Veterans Place, Silver Spring;
- Mon, Jan 30, BlackRock Center for the Arts, 12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown.

Mr. Leggett will announce his Recommended FY18 Operating Budget on March 15. The County Council approves the operating budget at the end of May.

Supplemental Appropriation for WOSG Infrastructure

County Executive Leggett has recommended a supplemental appropriation to the FY17 Capital Budget and amendment to the FY17-22 Capital Improvements Program in the amount of \$47,200,000 for WOSG Redevelopment Project. Monies will fund 1) demolition of on-site buildings in preparation for construction of master-planned roads and 2) infrastructure improvements for the redevelopment of the White Oak Science Gateway Redevelopment projects. There is a public hearing on this matter with the County Council on **January 17, 2017**.

More information go to <http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/>

GeneratedAgendaViewer.php?view_id=136&event_id=5002 and you may sign-up to testify at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/calendar.html> OR call 240-777-7803.

Tis the Season to be SAFE! Chief Manger's Top 10 Do's and Don'ts This Holiday Season

#10 Don't park in a Disabled Parking spot unless you have a Disabled Parking placard and the placard is issued to you. Even parking there for just a few minutes is illegal and tremendously insensitive for those who really need that spot. #9 Do put your phone away (see p. 4)

while you are driving or walking. #8 Don't have packages delivered to unsecured locations. Packages are stolen off front porches way too often. #7 Do be careful when you are walking in a big parking lot. Pedestrians are struck by cars backing out of parking spaces every day during busy shopping times. #6 Don't give money to anyone who calls you on the phone, unless you know who the caller is. Phone scams spike during the season of giving. #5 Do keep your wallet in your front pocket, or in a closed purse. Keep your purse in front of you at all times. An open purse is an easy target for a thief. #4 Don't keep your shopping bags and packages in plain view in your car. Thieves are always on the lookout for valuables in an unattended car. #3 Do plan ahead when you attend a holiday party. Have a designated driver if you are going to drink. Arrange for a taxi or an Uber. Do remember that WRAP (Washington Regional Alcohol Program) provides their SoberRide service every year at this time. #2 Don't give your credit-card information to any solicitor who comes to your door or calls you on the phone. There are too many scammers this time of year. Better safe than sorry. And the #1 way to keep yourself safe this holiday season: Be aware of what is going on around you at all times. Whether you are driving, walking, putting merchandise in your car, while you're shopping, when you are walking alone. Look around, stay in lit areas, shop with a friend, notice your surroundings to keep yourself safe.

On behalf of all of the men and women of the MCPD, we wish you a peaceful holiday.

Small Business Navigator—Meet Judy Stephenson

The Small Business Navigator role was created by legislation to assist local small businesses working in and with Montgomery County. Our local Small Business Navigator, Judy Stephenson, can help with your business needs such:



- How to comply with County requirements and regulations
- Updating you on changes to regulations and requirements that would improve your business
- Provide you with a database of helpful information
- Assist in tracking common issues
- Promote communication between your business and County departments and agencies

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Check out the White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/WhiteOakScienceGatewayMasterPlan/>

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